

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1829

To evaluate the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system and report on certain information.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 13, 1995

Mr. WYDEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To evaluate the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system and report on certain information.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Comprehensive Survey
5 of Young Offenders Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Juvenile violent crime over the past decade
9 has increased at a rate double that for adults, reach-
10 ing the highest level in this country’s history.

1 (2) Anecdotal evidence suggests that young of-
2 fenders may pass through the juvenile justice and
3 social service systems repeatedly before being held
4 accountable for their actions.

5 (3) There is little reliable data on the effective-
6 ness of this country's juvenile justice systems in en-
7 suring accountability and community safety, and re-
8 ducing recidivism.

9 (b) PURPOSES.—The purpose of this Act is to gen-
10 erate a comprehensive report on this country's juvenile
11 justice systems including the flow of offenders through the
12 system, recidivism rates, and dispositions imposed for of-
13 fenses.

14 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

15 Not later than 2 years after the date of the enact-
16 ment of this Act, the Bureau of Justice Statistics shall
17 submit to Congress a report on juvenile justice systems
18 across the country. Such report shall include the following:

19 (1) A survey of data now available in represent-
20 ative States and localities as determined by the At-
21 torney General (including urban, suburban, and
22 rural localities) regarding juvenile offenders arrested
23 for an offense. The survey will include the age of of-
24 fenders and offense as well as a comprehensive eval-
25 uation of intake procedures, formal and informal

1 proceedings, and outcomes such as dispositions, re-
2 sults of nonpetitioned juvenile proceedings, and re-
3 cidivism rates.

4 (2) Design and estimate costs for a program
5 that will improve data collection for selected States
6 by—

7 (A) identifying young offenders by name as
8 they flow through the system, from arrest
9 through intake interview, court proceedings,
10 and disposition;

11 (B) compiling young offender records that
12 permit analysts to study the penalty, if any,
13 given for each offense and for each offender;
14 and

15 (C) encouraging States, which can identify
16 juvenile records through fingerprints and are
17 prepared to allow juvenile records to be made
18 available for analytical purposes, to cooperate in
19 a pilot program to test the feasibility and value
20 of a new reporting system.

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